



July 30, 2004

Reply to Attn of:

Distribution

FROM: AA/Director

SUBJECT: Invitation to Messenger-to-Mercury Launch Reception, August 1, 2004

The Boeing Company, Aerojet Company, Johns Hopkins University, Challenger Center, and Brevard Community College (BCC) Planetarium will host a launch reception at the BCC Planetarium on Sunday, August 1, 2004. Approximately 300 guests from academia, space-related industries, and state and Federal Government were invited. This is a significant event as the mission is carrying seven different instruments with unique scientific objectives.

This event is a "widely attended gathering." In accordance with 5 C.F.R. §2635.204(g), Widely Attended Gatherings and Other Events, and 14 C.F.R. §1207.103, Designation of Responsible Officials, I have determined it is in the Government's best interest for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacity as representatives of NASA. This event will be widely attended by officials from other Federal and state agencies, members of academia, and representatives of the space industry. The cost of the event, including the reception and memorabilia, is \$27.38 per person. NASA's ongoing interest in the dissemination of information related to space exploration and launches outweighs the concern that free attendance at this event may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties. Accordingly, NASA invitees may attend this event.

*Woodrow Guthrie, Jr.*  
for

James W. Kennedy  
Agency Designee

Distribution:  
STDL-A